

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
And Maryland, of the United States of America

The State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the State of Maryland, United States of America, desiring to strengthen the economic and social relationships between the people of our states and in recognition of the mutual benefits of international trade, hereby establish this Memorandum of Understanding.

Rio de Janeiro and Maryland have enjoyed a beneficial relationship since 1965 under the sponsorship of Partners of the Americas, a private, non-profit, and non-political program, engaged with priority in cultural and economic exchanges for environmental preservation and sustainable development, agriculture, arts and culture, education, health, exchange of technological information, and programs aimed at youth development. In the course of these 35 years, the citizen and the Government authorities of both states have recognized the work of the Rio de Janeiro-Maryland Partnership.

Today, we join in strengthening the bonds between our states by promoting trade in goods and services to the mutual benefit of our people.

To this end we will encourage the strengthening of communication linkages between and among those who are or may become engaged in international trade.

We will continue and expand our efforts to assist businesses in learning how to engage in international trade.

We will continue to support the programs for student exchanges recognizing the value of direct visitation to promote mutual cultural understanding.

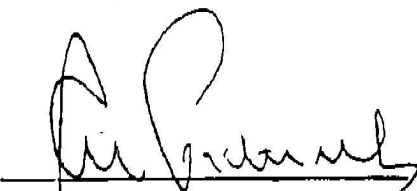
We will support the work of related state agencies, universities, and private organizations in their programs to facilitate and support international trade.

We will continue to employ the good services Partners of the Americas and the Maryland Sister States Program in support of the objective of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The cooperation and exchange programs to be carried out under this memorandum of Understanding shall conform to the applicable laws, decrees, and regulations of the United States of America and of the Federative Republic of Brazil as well as those of the States of Maryland and Rio de Janeiro.

This memorandum is executed in duplicate in the Portuguese and English languages, respectively, both texts being equally authentic and valid.

Signed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1999 at Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil



Anthony Garotinho  
Governor  
State of Rio de Janeiro  
Federative Republic of Brazil



Parris N. Glendening  
Governor  
State of Maryland  
United States of America

Witnesses:

